

In the Claims

1. (currently amended) A self-cleaning, ventilated brake rotor comprising:  
first and second circular members having annular braking surfaces jointly defining  
inner and outer circumferential surfaces and a central portion;

an elongated slot provided in each annular braking surface, each said slot having a  
depth, a width and a length extending from said central portion to an outer periphery of  
said rotor;

a plurality of spaced openings ~~an opening~~ in a bottom of each said elongated slot  
~~having a size smaller than the length of the slot;~~ and

each said elongated slot terminating adjacent to but short of and spaced from said  
outer periphery and central portion of said rotor.

2. (original) The rotor according to claim 1, further comprising a hat portion  
disposed in the central portion and adapted for mounting the rotor to a vehicle.

3. (canceled)

4. (currently amended) The brake rotor according to claim 1, wherein each  
of said spaced openings has opening ~~includes~~ a width or radius equal to or smaller than the  
width of the slot.

5-8. (canceled)

9. (previously presented) The brake rotor according to claim 4, wherein a  
flow channel is provided between the circular members and opposite said inner and outer  
circumferential surfaces.

10. (canceled)

11. (currently amended) The brake rotor according to claim 9, further  
comprising a plurality of vanes in said channel between the inner and outer circumferential  
surfaces, wherein at least a pair of vanes defines the flow channel having a first flow  
channel opening near the central region and a second flow channel opening provided near

a periphery of the brake rotor, and the opening openings in each said elongated slot slots communicates ~~communicate~~ with said flow channel.

12-19. (canceled)

20. (currently amended) The brake rotor according to claim 11, wherein all or a portion of each said elongated slot is substantially straight.

21. (currently amended) The brake rotor according to claim 11, wherein each said elongated slot includes a curve.

22-53. (canceled)

54. (currently amended) A vehicle having a disc braking system including one or more disc brake rotors, each rotor comprising:

first and second circular members having annular braking surfaces on opposite sides of said rotor, said rotor having a central portion;

[[an]] a plurality of angled and spaced elongated slots slot provided on each of said annular braking surfaces, each of said elongated slots slot having a depth, a length, first and second ends, and a width with a first end of each elongated slot adjacent to and spaced from said central portion and the second end of each elongated slot adjacent to and spaced from an outer periphery of said rotor;

a plurality of vanes between said circular members adjacent said annular braking surfaces; and

each elongated slot in said first and second annular braking surfaces having a plurality of spaced bottom openings for communicating with an elongated [[a]] slot on an opposite braking surface through a space between adjacent vanes.

55. (canceled)